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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,787	09/26/2003	Seung Jun Han	8733.597.01	4358
30827	7590	12/28/2005		
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP 1900 K STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER HAN, JASON	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/670,787

Applicant(s)

HAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jason M. Han

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

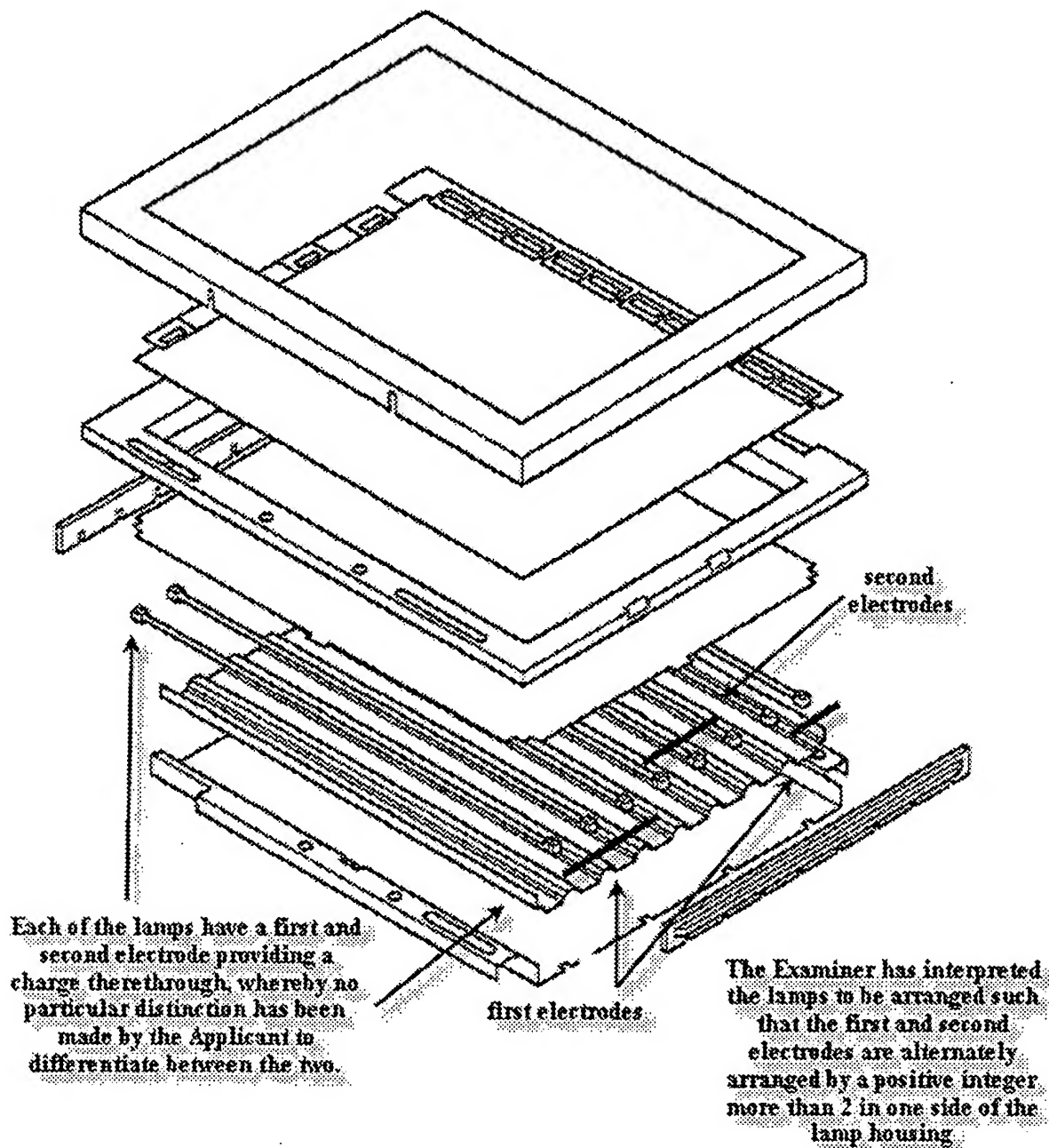
Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed November 14, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The prior art of Itoh (U.S. Publication 2002/0030993) remains commensurate to the scope of the claims as stated by the Applicant and broadly interpreted by the Examiner [MPEP 2111]. Below is a recapitulation and elucidation of the Examiner's interpretation and how each of the structural limitations has been satisfied, which the Applicant disputes. It should be noted that the claim language at present is insufficient in structure to render a definite invention over the prior art of record, whereby no distinction has been made between the first and second electrodes (e.g., a high pressure electrode and lower pressure electrode as supported by the specification).

Itoh clearly discloses a backlight unit including:

- A lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)]; and
- A plurality of lamps [Figure 1: (1)] respectively having a first electrode and a second electrode (inherent as shown in the drawing below) and arranged in the lamp housing so that the first and the second electrodes are alternately disposed in one side of the lamp housing (structurally insufficient to read over a broad interpretation by the Examiner as shown in the drawing below).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Itoh (U.S. Publication 2002/0030993).
3. With regards to Claim 1, Itoh discloses a backlight unit including:
 - A lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)]; and
 - A plurality of lamps [Figure 1: (1)] respectively having a first electrode and a second electrode and arranged in the lamp housing so that the first and the second electrodes are alternately disposed in one side of the lamp housing.
4. With regards to Claim 2, Itoh discloses a diffusion plate [Figure 1: (3)] located on the lamp housing, and an optical sheet [Page 3, Paragraph 38] located on the diffusion plate.
5. With regards to Claim 3, Itoh discloses the first and second electrodes [Figure 1: (1)] respectively arranged in a zigzag fashion.
6. With regards to Claim 4, Itoh discloses the first electrode and the second electrode [Figure 1: (1)] being alternately arranged with more than 2 in one side of the lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh (U.S. Publication 2002/0030993) in view of Taniguchi et al. (U.S. Patent 6099134).

8. With regards to Claim 5, Itoh discloses a liquid crystal display including:

- A backlight unit further including:
 - = A lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)];
 - = A plurality of lamps [Figure 1: (1)] respectively having a first electrode and a second electrode and arranged in the lamp housing so that the first and the second electrodes are alternately disposed in one side of the lamp housing;
 - = A diffusion plate [Figure 1: (3)] disposed on the lamp housing;
 - = An optical sheet [Page 3, Paragraph 38] disposed on the diffusion plate;
- A liquid crystal display [Figure 1: (5)] disposed on the backlight unit.

Itoh does not specifically teach the liquid crystal panel having a plurality of liquid crystal cells arranged in matrix form.

Taniguchi teaches, "By way of example, the liquid crystal device to which the present invention can find application is never restricted to any specific one but

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conventional liquid crystal devices or panels may be employed. As the liquid crystal cells to which the invention can find application, there may be mentioned in general twisted nematic, super-twisted nematic, homogeneous, thin film transistor or the like type liquid crystal or a liquid crystal cell of active matrix drive scheme or a simple matrix driving type [Column 24, Lines 43-51].”

It would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the simple matrix driving type LCD of Taniguchi into the LCD device of Itoh. Such a configuration is an obvious matter of design choice and commonly known within the art, as corroborated by Taniguchi.

9. With regards to Claim 6, Itoh in view of Taniguchi discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Itoh teaches the first and second electrodes [Figure 1: (1)] respectively arranged in a zigzag fashion.

10. With regards to Claim 7, Itoh in view of Taniguchi discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Itoh teaches the first electrode and the second electrode [Figure 1: (1)] being alternately arranged with more than 2 in one side of the lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)].

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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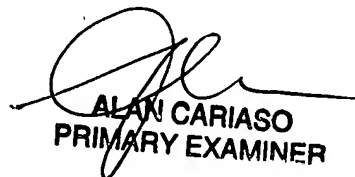
mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JMH (12/16/2005)


ALAN CARIASO
PRIMARY EXAMINER